(b) As per the available information 54 sick Central Public Sector Undertakings employing 3.18 lakh persons as on 31st March, 1991 are referrable to BIFR.

(c) Employment strategy envisaged in the Eight Plan is to achieve near full employment situation at the end of next ten years.

Comprehensive Labour Policy

1599. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) the number of strikes, lockouts and closures during the last Five Years- in private and public sector industrial units;

(b) the mandays lost due to above reasons;

'c) whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive labour policy; and

(d) if so, how the aspect of indus trial relation wi'l L-e addressed to in the policy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Information is given in the Annexure, (See *Appendix CLXIV,* Annexure No. 29).

(c) and (d) Government's labour policy is to protect the interests of the workers while working towards promoting better understanding and maintenance of cordial relations bet ween employers and employees. In this context, the Ramanujam Com mittee had recommended specific pro-poals for a new Industrial Relations law which is under active consideration of the Government.

Job Opportunities lost due to Economic Stability Programme

1600. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is. the total number of job opportunities lost so far following the economic stability programme of Government;

(b) by what percentage, the backlog of the unemployment in the country, has rised as a result thereof and how does it compare with the backlog at the end of last year; and

(c) what is the strategy, if any, formulated by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) (<e) The economic policy of the Government has only been announced recently and it is too early to have an assessment of its impact on employment situation.

Plight of Child Labour

1601. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of child labour particularly below 14 years age, is increasing despite various existing labour laws to check the employment of child labour, if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) the number of child labour in the country at present and its number likely to be by 2001;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of the total labour force, one sixth is the child labour;

(d) the number of laws to check or ban the child labour in existence at present;

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to plug the loopholes in the existing labour laws; and

(f) whether Government have re ceived any help from organisation or World Health Organisation on the plight of child labour, if so, the de tails thereof?